



KNUCKLES: THE RETURN
PART 4 OF 4

#12

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

\$2.50 US

SEGA®

SONIC UNIVERSE™



DIRECT EDITION



01211>



7 62816 20000 4

Tracy
Yardley
Hunzeker

Welcome to the planet Mobius – a world unique and beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Knuckles the Echidna, guardian of Angel Island, defends his friends and homeland from the forces of evil!

ECHOES of the PAST

PART FOUR

DARK EGG LEGION--
DOWNUNDA CHAPTER'S
BASE
GREAT CRATER BASIN

SO YOU
ARE IN LEAGUE
WITH THE DARK
EGG LEGION.
I SHOULD'VE
KNOWN YOU WERE
PLAYING US FOR
SAPS, FINITEVUS.

YES,
YOU SHOULD
HAVE.

DR. FINITEVUS
EVIL SCIENTIST

**KNUCKLES THE
ECHIDNA**
GUARDIAN OF
ANGEL ISLAND

DUCK BILL PLATYPUS
GRANDMASTER OF THE
LOCAL D.E.L. CHAPTER

Writer: IAN FLYNN • Pencils: TRACY YARDLEY! • Inks: JIM AMASH
Colors: JASON JENSEN • Letters: TERESA DAVIDSON

Assistant Editor: PAUL KAMINSKI • Editor/Managing Editor: MIKE PELLERITO
Editor-in-Chief: VICTOR GORELICK

Special thanks to CINDY CHAU and JERRY CHU at SEGA Licensing



I RAN INTO THIS LOCAL CHAPTER OF THE LEGION WHILE INVESTIGATING THE VERY RUINS THAT LED YOU TO ME. LO AND BEHOLD, WE HAD A COMMON INTEREST,



WHILE I HAVE NO LOVE FOR DR. ROBOTNIK OR HIS SUCCESSOR-- THE "IRON QUEEN", WAS IT?-- WE ALL DESIRE THE MASTER EMERALD.



"I AGREED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION AND MY WARP RING TECHNOLOGY TO ENSNARE YOUR PRECIOUS ANGEL ISLAND."



IN RETURN, I AM FREE TO STUDY THE MASTER EMERALD AT MY LEISURE.

YOU ALREADY HEXED IT AND USED IT TO TURN ME INTO ENERJAK. WHAT ELSE DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?

AHHHAH! OH, KNUCKLES! THERE'S *SO MUCH* MORE TO DISCOVER.

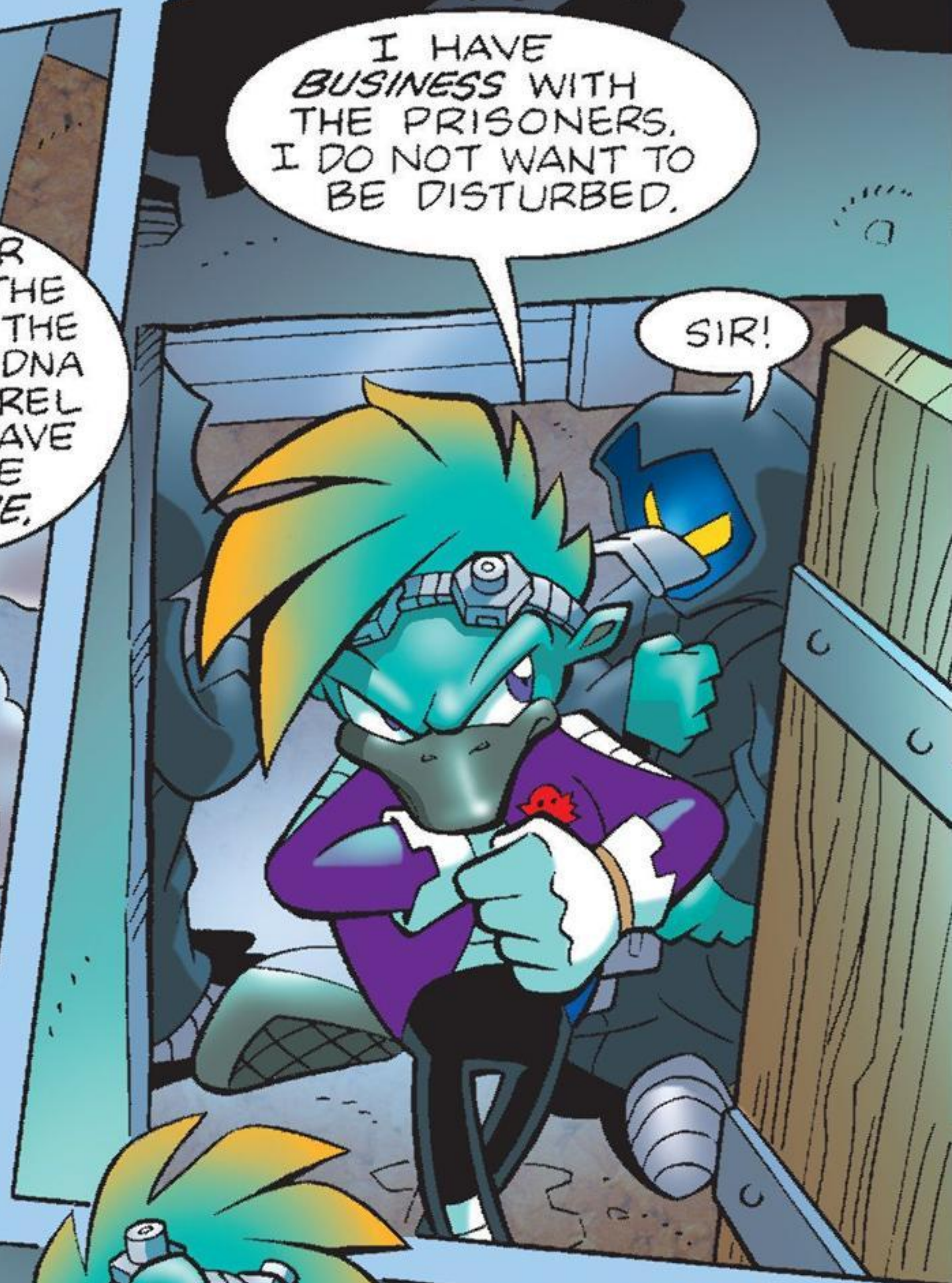


NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I'M TO OVERSEE THE LAST OF ANGEL ISLAND BEING REELED BACK INTO ITS PLACE HERE IN THE GREAT CRATER.



A WORD OF ADVICE, GRANDMASTER.

HAVE YOUR MEN COMB THE CRATER FOR THE FEMALE ECHIDNA AND THE SQUIRREL CHILD. THEY HAVE TO BE HERE SOMEWHERE.



I HAVE *BUSINESS* WITH THE PRISONERS. I DO NOT WANT TO BE DISTURBED.

SIR!



I'VE BEEN WAITING A LONG TIME FOR THIS.

DEET!



WAIT--
WE'RE
FREE?

NOT
LIKE THEY
COULD
HOLD ME,
BUT **BOY**
DOES
THAT FEEL
GOOD!

I'D RATHER
YOU STAYED
LOCKED UP,
VECTOR, BUT
I NEED ALL
THE HELP I
CAN GET AT
THIS POINT.

LIKE
YOU'RE IN
A POSITION TO
JUDGE ANYWAY,
BILL.

WHAT
GIVES, WALT?
YOU SAID HE
TURNED ON
YOUR TEAM.

THAT, AND
HELPED CONQUER
DOWNUNDA FOR
THE EGGMAN
EMPIRE.

YOU HAVE
A LOT OF
EXPLAINING TO
DO, BILL,
ESPECIALLY
TO ME.

I'M SO
SORRY, BARBY.
I WANTED TO
TELL YOU--
ALL OF YOU--BUT
I NEVER HAD
TIME.



"WHEN DR. ROBOTNIK PUT NEW PRESSURE ON THE REGION, MY PEOPLE SAW AN OPPORTUNITY FOR POWER. THEY CAME TO ME SINCE I LED THEM ONCE BEFORE.



"I COULDN'T DISSUADE THEM, SO I TRIED TO MANAGE THE CRISIS. I VOLUNTEERED MYSELF TO DR. ROBOTNIK TO MAINTAIN CONTROL, I GUESS HE LIKED THE IDEA OF ME TURNING TRAITOR.



"WE WERE 'UPGRADED' WITH CYBERNETICS AND MADE A NEW CHAPTER OF HIS GROWING 'DARK EGG LEGION.' WE SET UP BASE HERE IN THE GREAT CRATER'S BASIN, AND YOU KNOW THE REST."



THERE WASN'T ANY WAY TO GET WORD TO YOU AND TELL YOU MY PLAN.

I'VE TRIED TO MISMANAGE THINGS, BUT I HAD TO MAKE *SOME* PROGRESS OR ROBOTNIK WOULD FIGURE OUT MY REAL MOTIVES.

I'M SO, SO SORRY.





WOMBAT STU
D.F.F.

MIGHTY THE
ARMADILLO
CHAOTIX

BARBY KOALA
D.F.F.

WALT
WALLABEE
D.F.F.

VECTOR THE
CROCODILE
CHAOTIX

THRASH THE
TASMANIAN
D.F.F. (?)

CHAOTIX!
DOWNUNDA
FREEDOM FIGHTERS!
CHARGE!

LET US
TAKE CARE
OF OUR HOME,
MATE. YOU
GO TAKE
CARE OF
YOURS.

GOOD
LUCK!

YEAH,
ABOUT THAT,
THE ISLAND IS
STILL A FEW MILES
UP THERE, AND
WE'RE FRESH
OUT OF WARP
RINGS.



MAYBE
I COULD JURY
RIG ONE OF
THOSE WINGED
DINGO
'BOTS...



WE DON'T
HAVE TIME FOR
THAT! FINITEVUS
IS ALREADY ON
THE ISLAND!

I'LL
GET YOU
THERE.

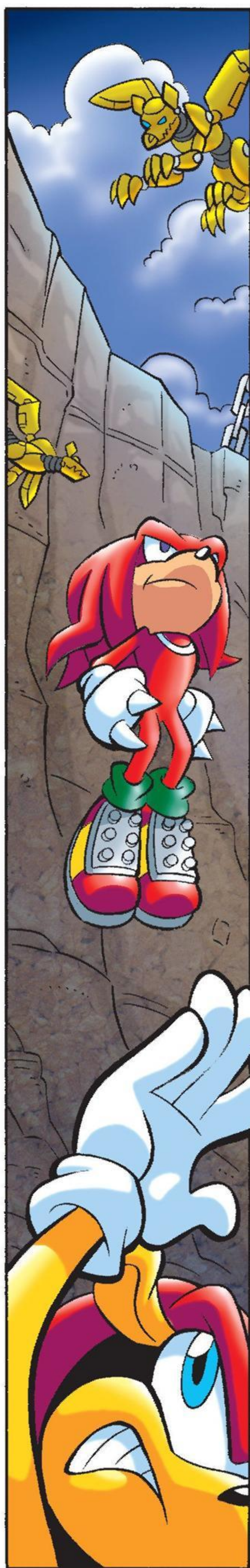
WHAT
DO YOU--
WAIT, YOU'RE
SURE?

POSITIVE.

AS SONIC
MIGHT SAY:
"LET'S DO
IT TO IT!"

PLEASE DON'T.
IT'S BAD ENOUGH
WHEN HE
DOES IT.





ANGEL ISLAND--
SHRINE ISLE

FINITEVUS!
STOP!

KNUCKLES?!

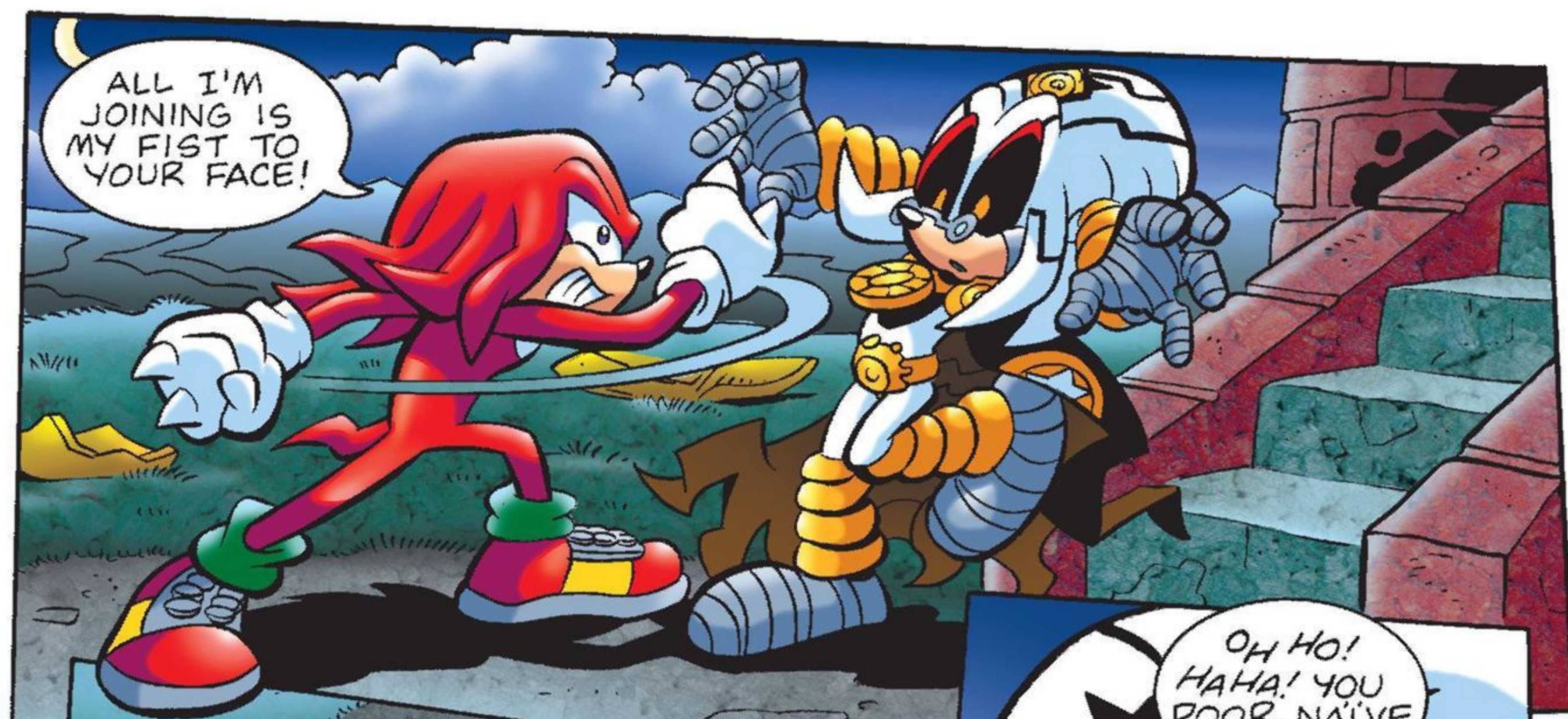
OH, WHY
SHOULD I BE
SURPRISED?

LET'S MAKE
THIS QUICK,

LET'S NOT
RUSH TO VIOLENCE,
I APOLOGIZE FOR
USING YOU BEFORE,
ALL RIGHT?

I DIDN'T
THINK A DEVOUT
GUARDIAN LIKE
YOURSELF WOULD
BE ABLE TO SEE
THE WORLD'S
SITUATION
CLEARLY.

BUT NOW
THAT YOU HAVE
SEEN THROUGH
MY EYES, NOW
THAT YOU SEE
WHAT YOU CAN
DO, WILL YOU
JOIN ME IN
SAVING THIS
WORLD?



ALL I'M JOINING IS MY FIST TO YOUR FACE!



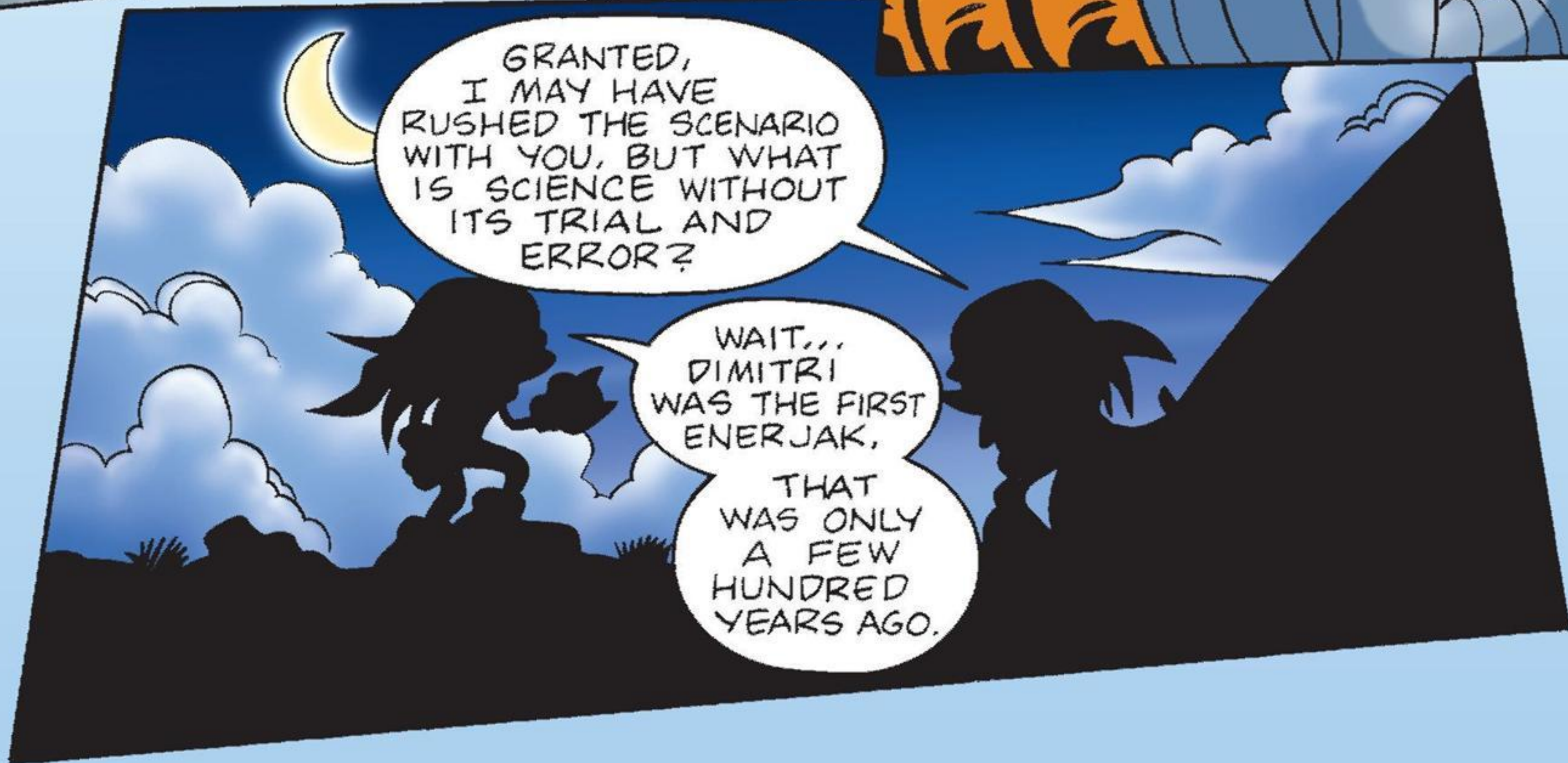
THE LAST THING THIS WORLD NEEDS IS ANOTHER ENERJAK!

WOOF!



OH HO!
HAHA! YOU POOR, NAÏVE BOY.

THERE HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN ENERJAK THROUGHOUT THE AGES!



GRANTED, I MAY HAVE RUSHED THE SCENARIO WITH YOU, BUT WHAT IS SCIENCE WITHOUT ITS TRIAL AND ERROR?

WAIT...
DIMITRI WAS THE FIRST ENERJAK,

THAT WAS ONLY A FEW HUNDRED YEARS AGO.



MY BOY, YOU'VE ONLY SCRAPPED THE SURFACE OF OUR HISTORY! I CAN PROVIDE YOU WITH ALL THE ANSWERS YOUR FOREFATHERS COULD NOT AND **WOULD NOT** GIVE YOU.

THE ANSWER TO THE STRANGE RUINS ON BOTH THIS ISLAND AND BELOW. ALL THE SECRET SINS OF ALBION, THE TRUTH TO ENERJAK AND THE "GODDESS" AURORA.



AND THEN WE CLEANSE THIS WORLD THAT IS LIKE A GARDEN GONE WILD.

WE'RE SO MUCH ALIKE--WE DON'T NEED TO BE ENEMIES. CLARITY AND PURITY IS WHAT I'M OFFERING, KNUCKLES. ANYTHING YOU WANT.



ANYTHING I WANT?



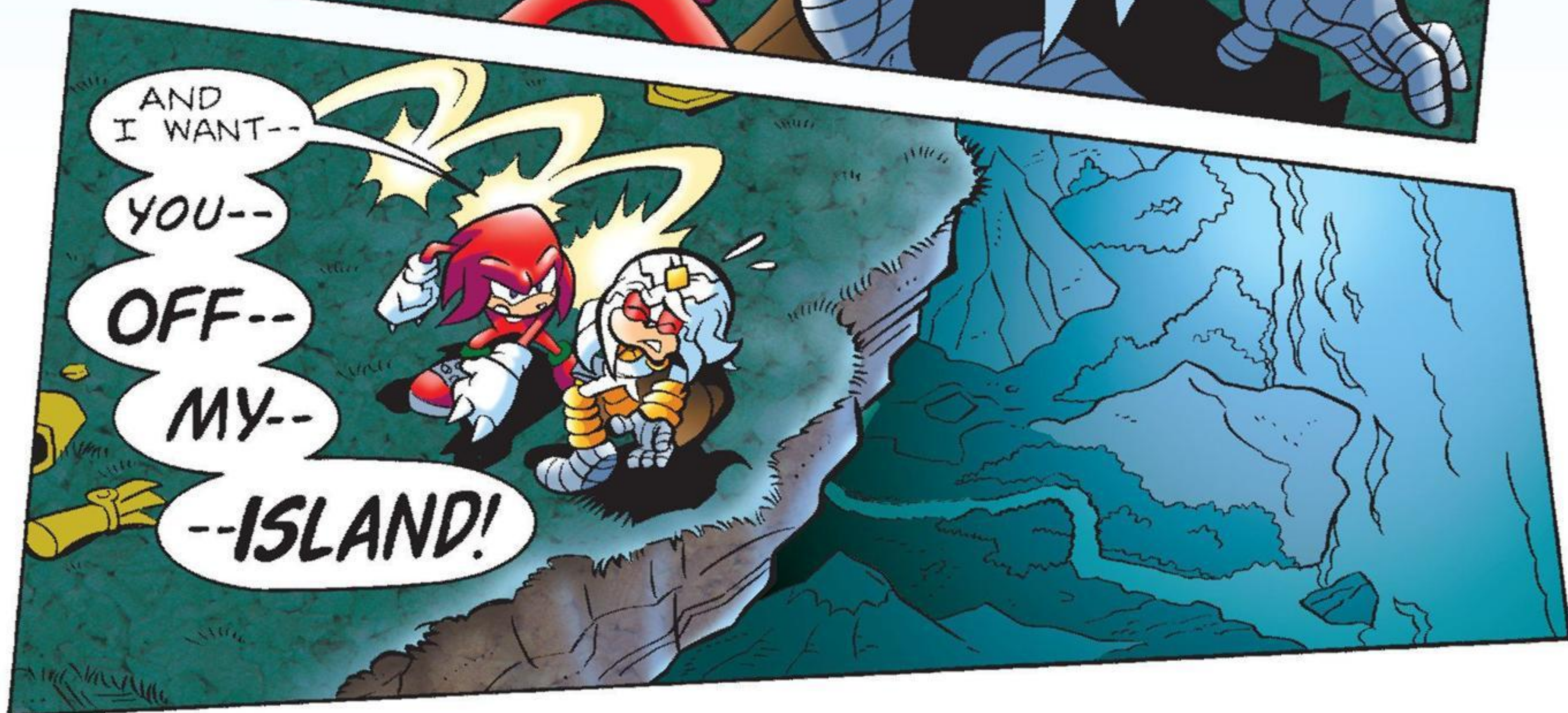
I
WANT MY
FATHER
BACK!



I WANT
TO BE ABLE
TO FACE MY
MOTHER
AGAIN!



I WANT
TO BE ABLE
TO FACE MY
PEOPLE
AGAIN!



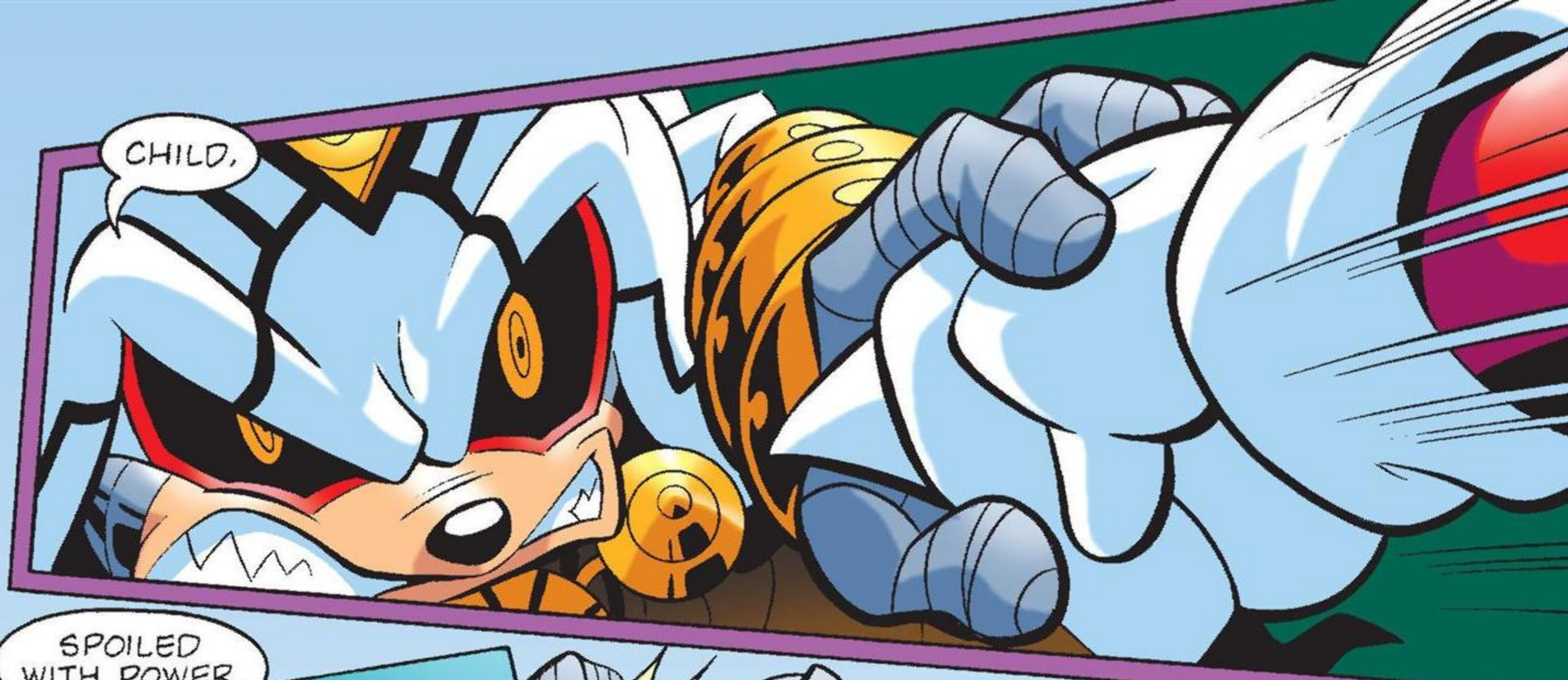
AND
I WANT--

YOU--

OFF--

MY--

--ISLAND!

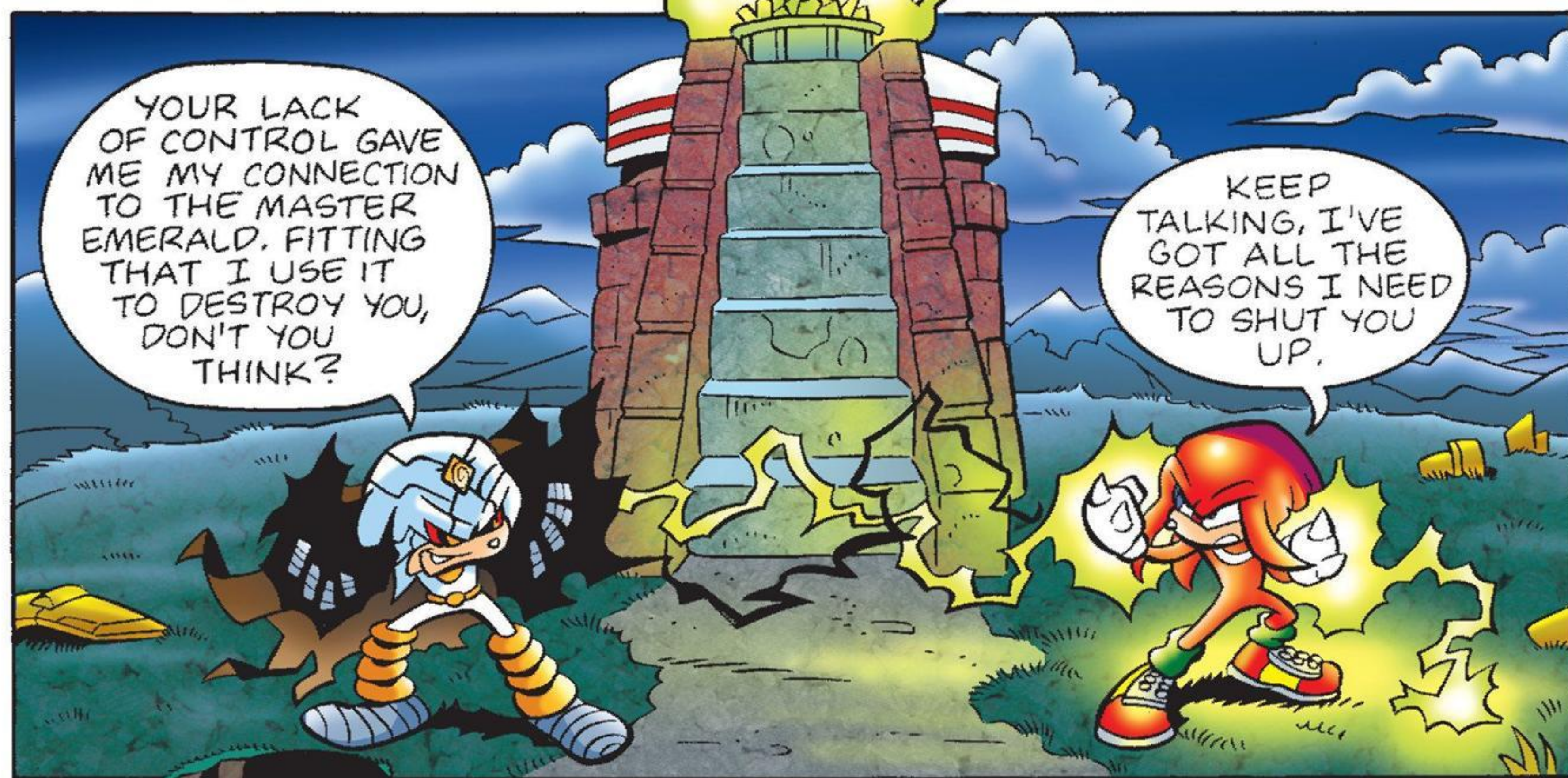




YOU CAN
CALL ME IGNORANT
ALL YOU WANT,
I'LL SHOW YOU
HOW MUCH
I KNOW!



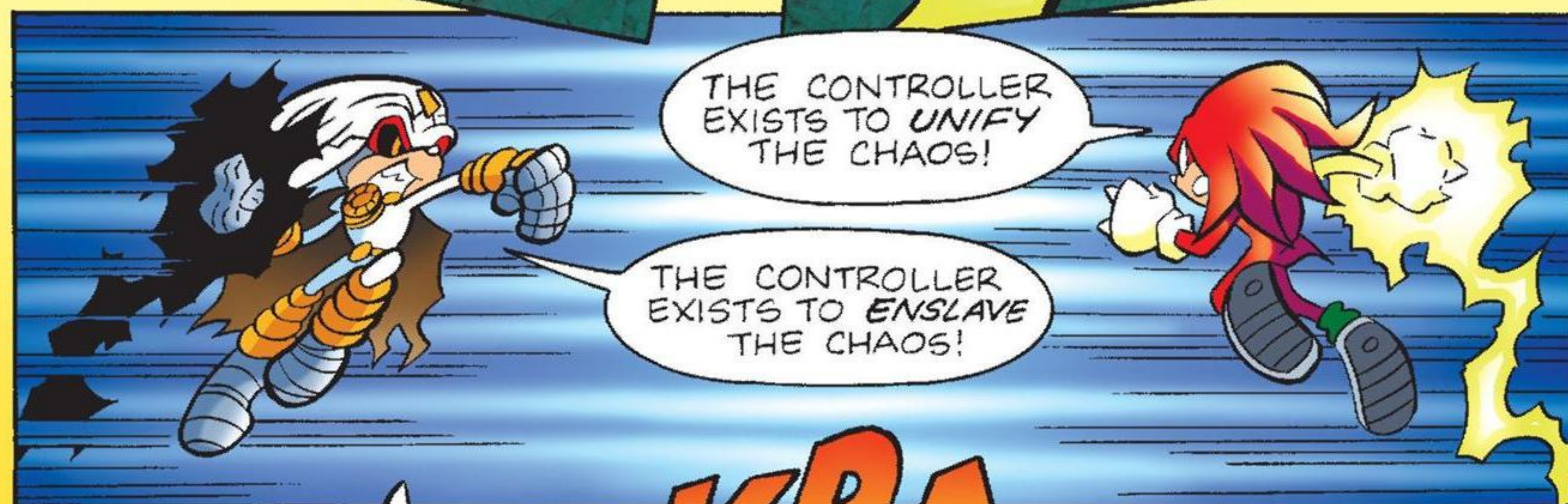
IS YOUR
COMMAND
OF CHAOS
ENERGY
SUPPOSED
TO IMPRESS
ME?

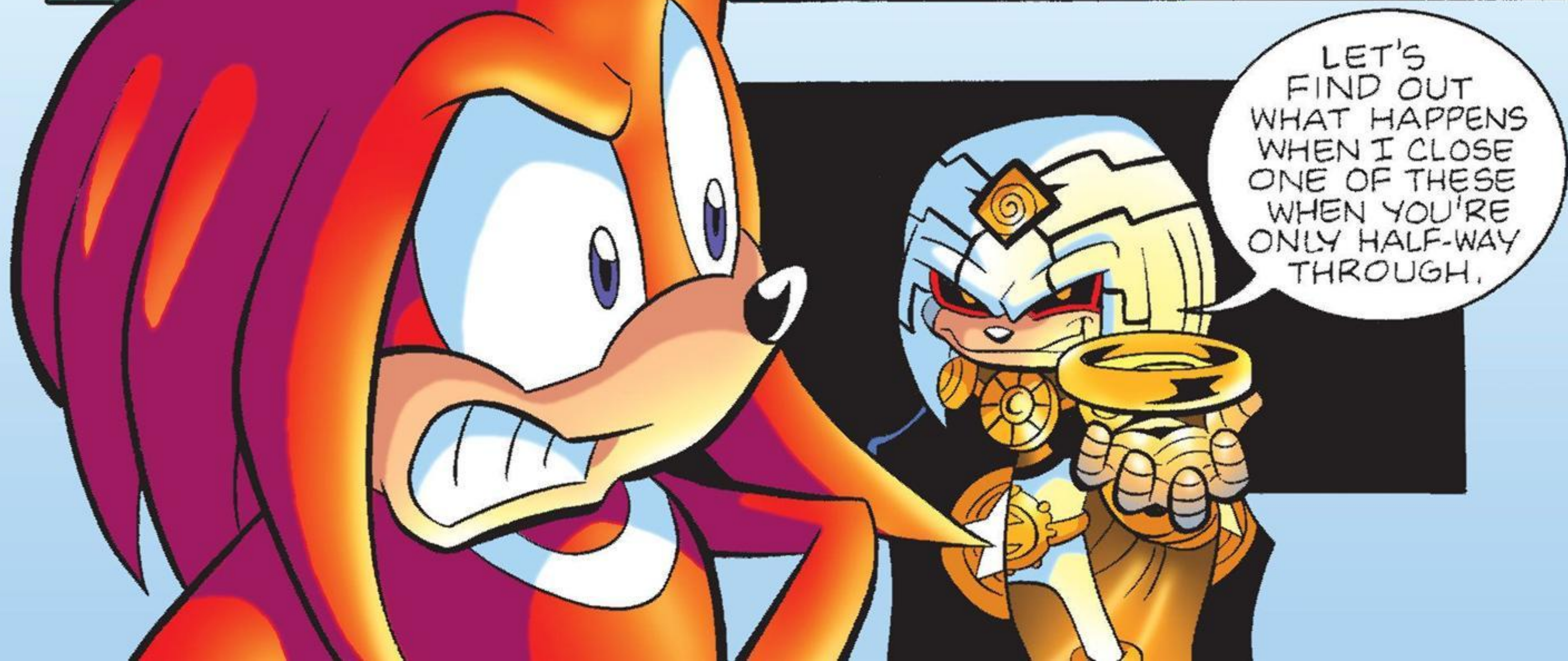
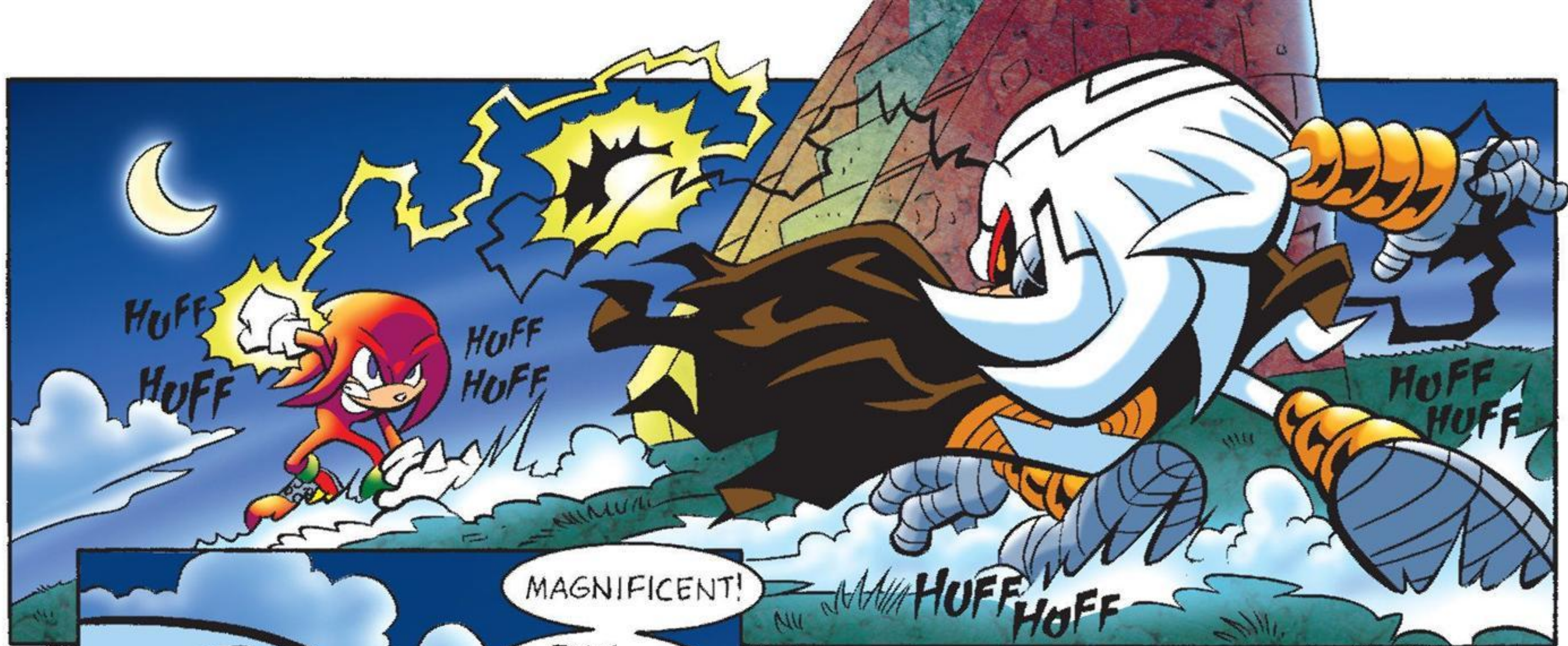


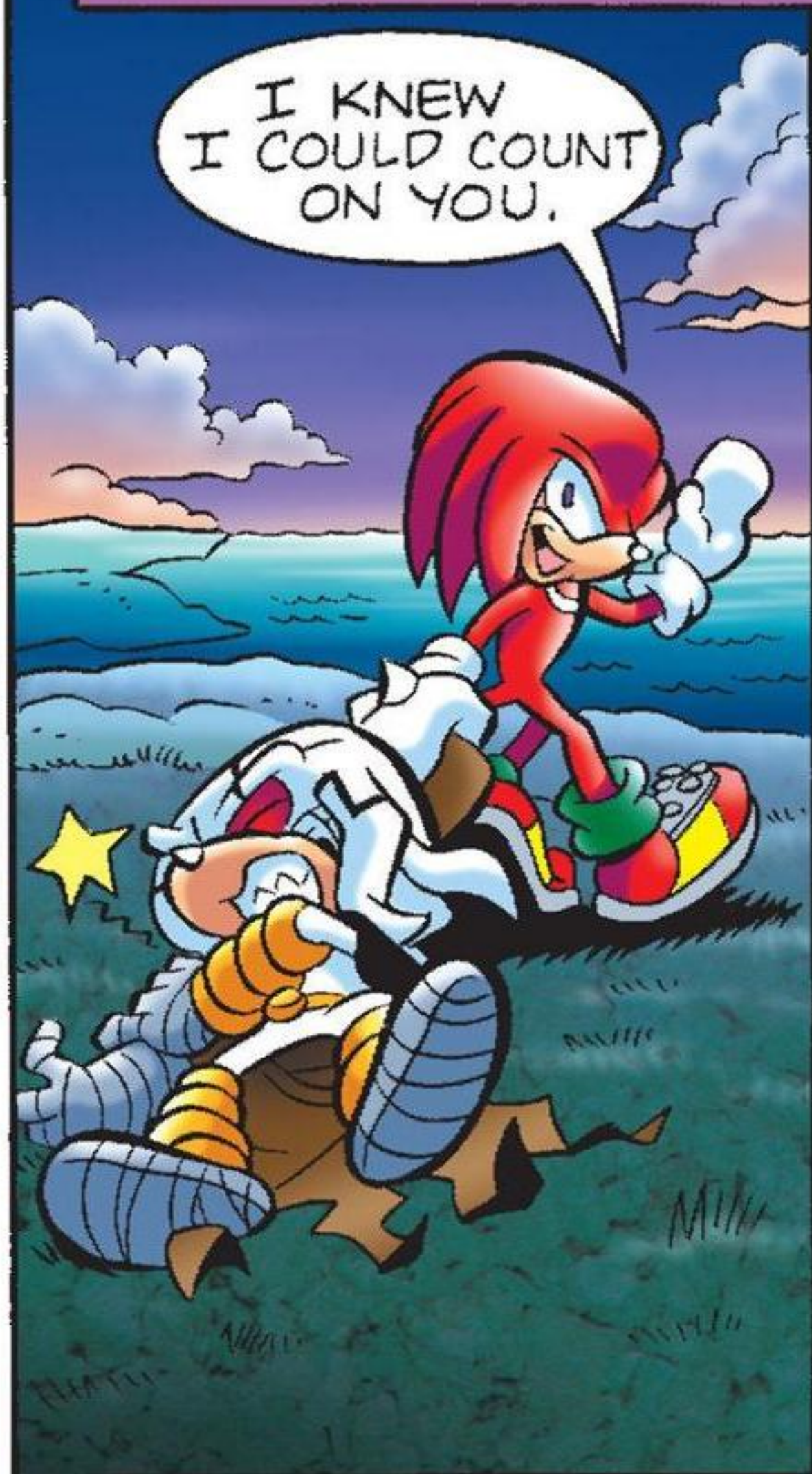
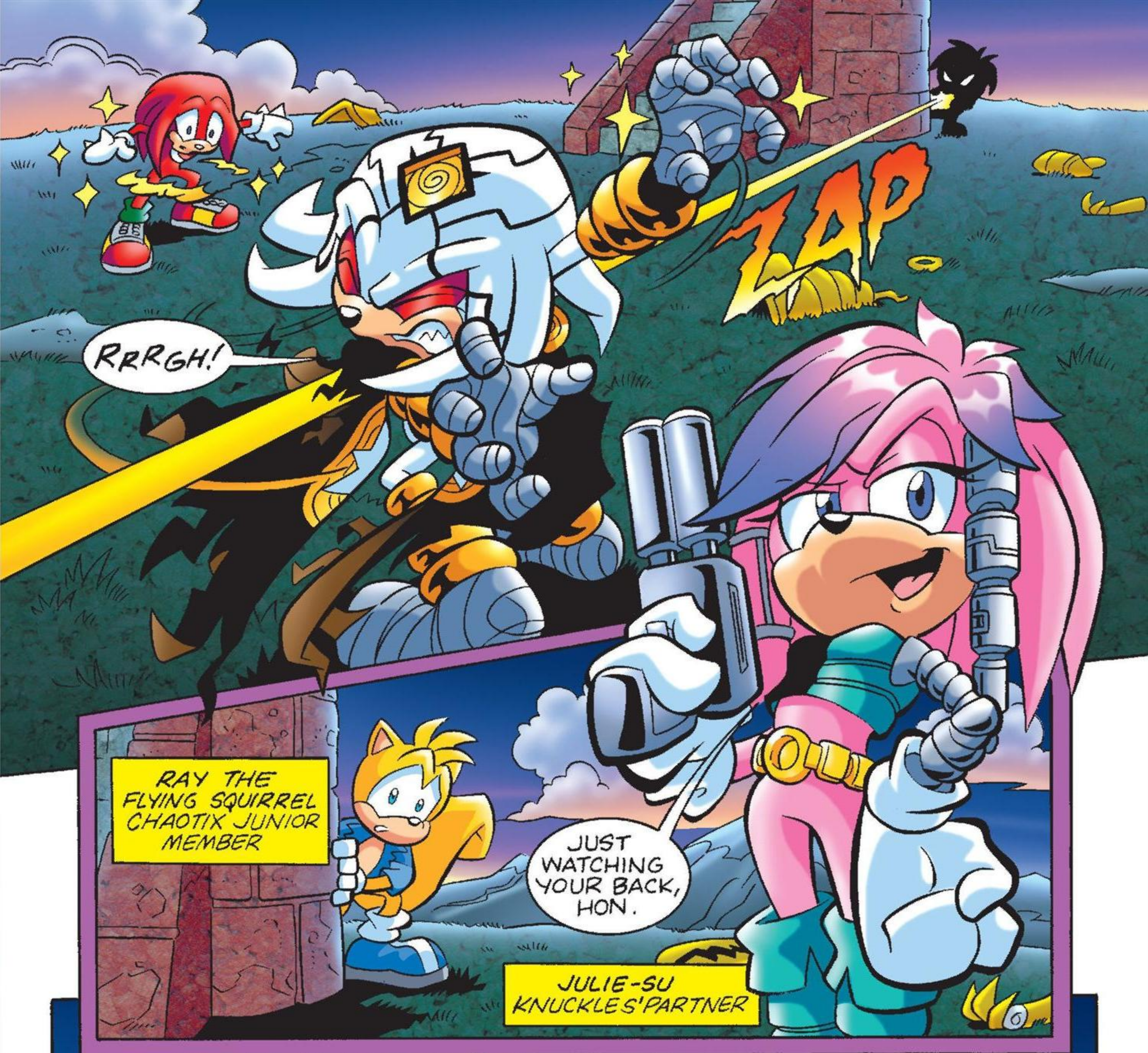
YOUR LACK
OF CONTROL GAVE
ME MY CONNECTION
TO THE MASTER
EMERALD. FITTING
THAT I USE IT
TO DESTROY YOU,
DON'T YOU
THINK?

KEEP
TALKING, I'VE
GOT ALL THE
REASONS I NEED
TO SHUT YOU
UP.









SHORTLY...

...AND THAT WAS THE LAST OF THE CHAINS. YOUR ISLAND IS FREE TO FLY AGAIN.

WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU AND YOUR TEAM, WALT.

LIKEWISE, MATE!

WHAT ABOUT BILL AND THE REST OF THE LEGION?

THE LEGION'S ROUTED FOR NOW, BUT THEY'LL BE BACK. AND WHEN THEY ARE, WE WON'T TRY SO HARD TO CRUSH BILL, HAHA!

YOU... DID GOOD WORK, VEC. THANKS.

YEAH, SURE. YOU, TOO.

DAD WOULD BE PROUD.

Meh, NEVER COULD PLEASE THE OLD MAN.

WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?

AW FOR THE LOVE OF--! DROP IT, RAY!



SO...
BACK UP
TO ANGEL
ISLAND WITH
ALL YOUR
ECHIDNA
FRIENDS?

NO,
ACTUALLY.

NO?

OH, RIGHT.
I REMEMBER
YOU SAYIN' ALL
THAT'S LEFT
WORK FOR THE
IRON QUEEN
NOW.

HALF
OF THEM,
YEAH, BUT
STILL...

THE OTHER
HALF ARE
HIDDEN AWAY
FOR THEIR
SAFETY.

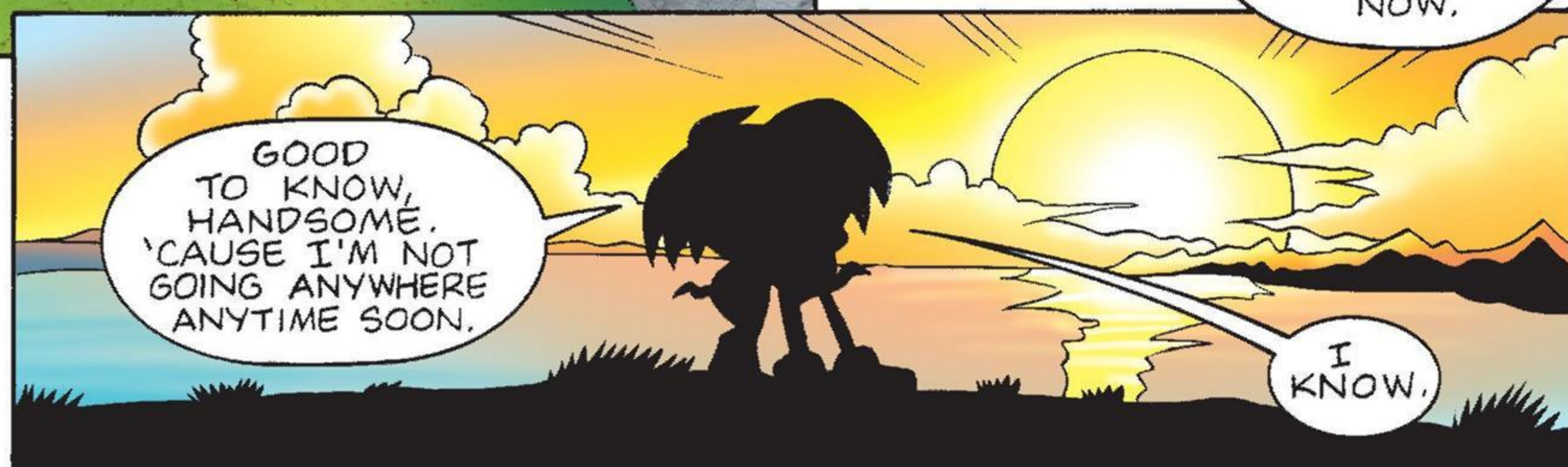


'COURSE!
SURE WOULD
BE A TERRIBLE
THING FOR
THE LAST OF
YER KIND TO
GET WIPED
OUT.

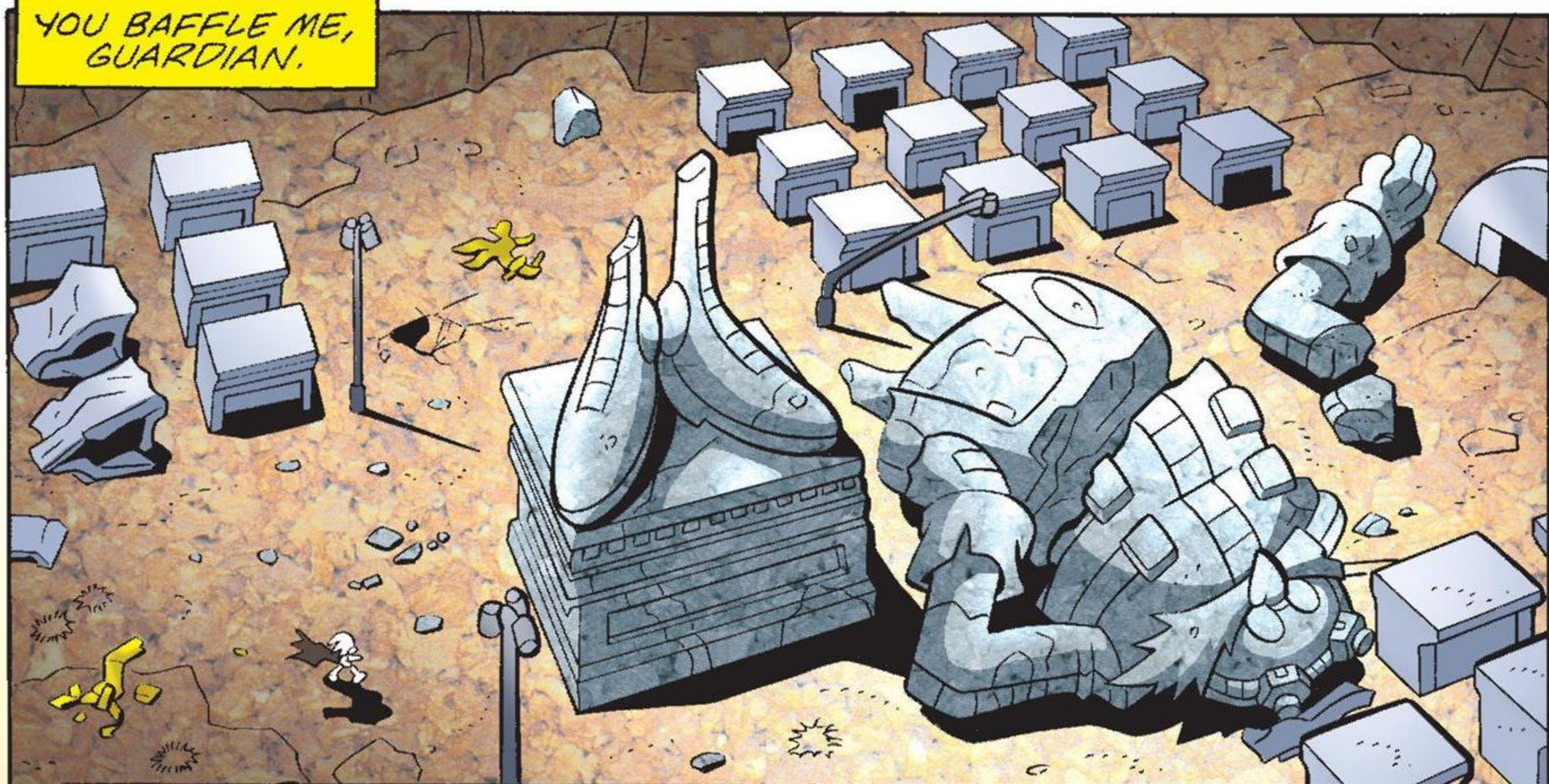
AND
WHAT'S NEXT
FOR YOU,
THRASH?



ME CHUMS
HERE HAVE THINGS
UNDER CONTROL,
I GUESS I'LL
TAKE UP ME
OLD QUEST.
TA!



YOU BAFFLE ME,
GUARDIAN.



IS YOUR
THINKING SO
SIMPLE THAT YOU
THINK YOU'RE ACTUALLY
PROTECTING SOMETHING
OF WORTH? HOW
SAD.



IF THAT'S
THE CASE, YOU'RE
TRULY BEYOND
SAVING. BUT
THAT DOESN'T
MEAN YOU CAN'T
BE USEFUL.

I HAVE
MANY MORE PLANS,
AND YOUR LIFE IS
A SACRIFICE I'M WILLING
TO MAKE.

ANGEL ISLAND IS SAFE
FOR NOW-- BUT FOR HOW
LONG? AND WHAT IS
DR. FINITEVUS PLOTTING?

COME BACK NEXT TIME
AS WE BEGIN A BRAND
NEW ADVENTURE!

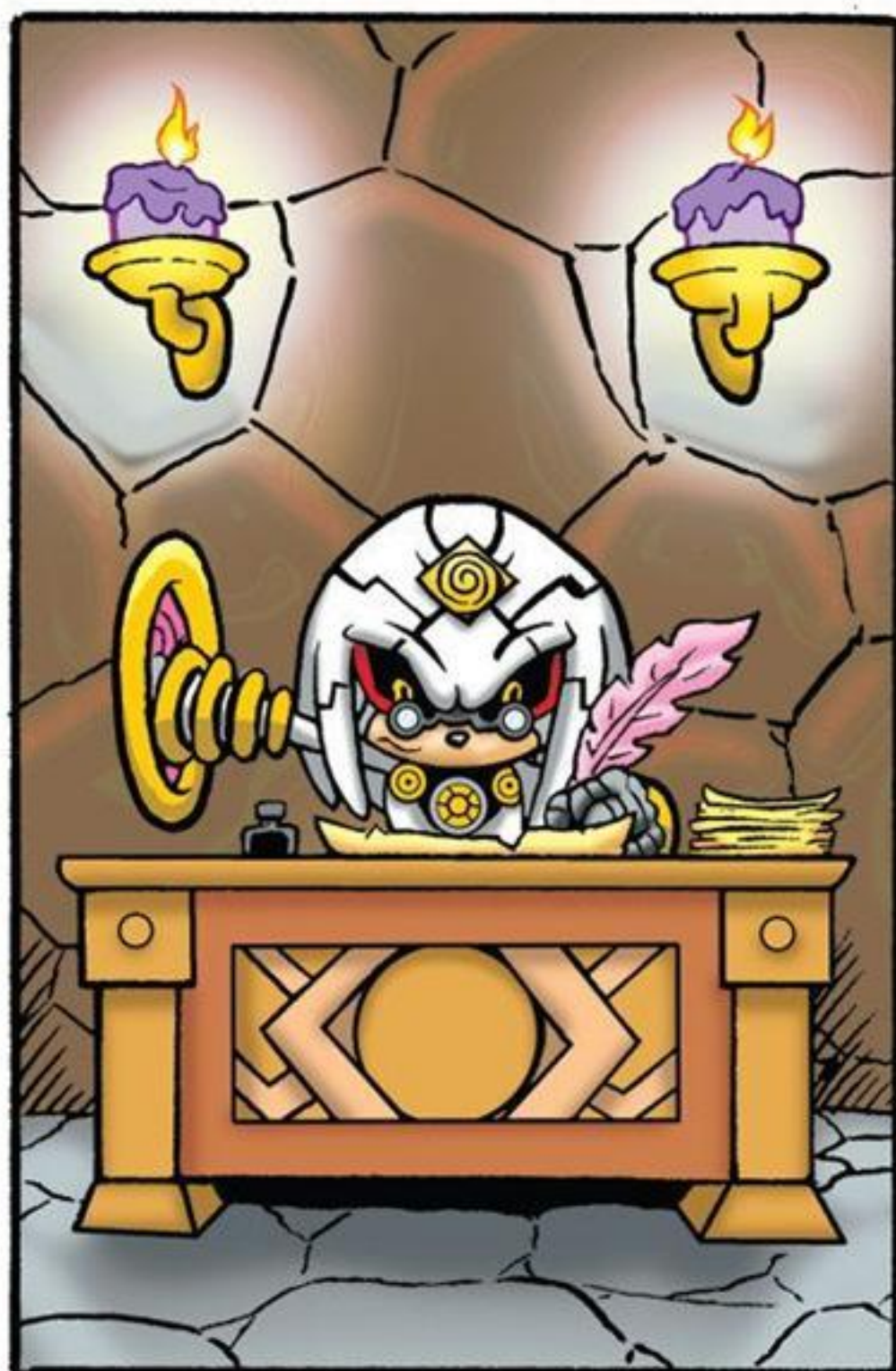




OFF PANEL

ECHOES of the PAST

"THAT'S NASTY"



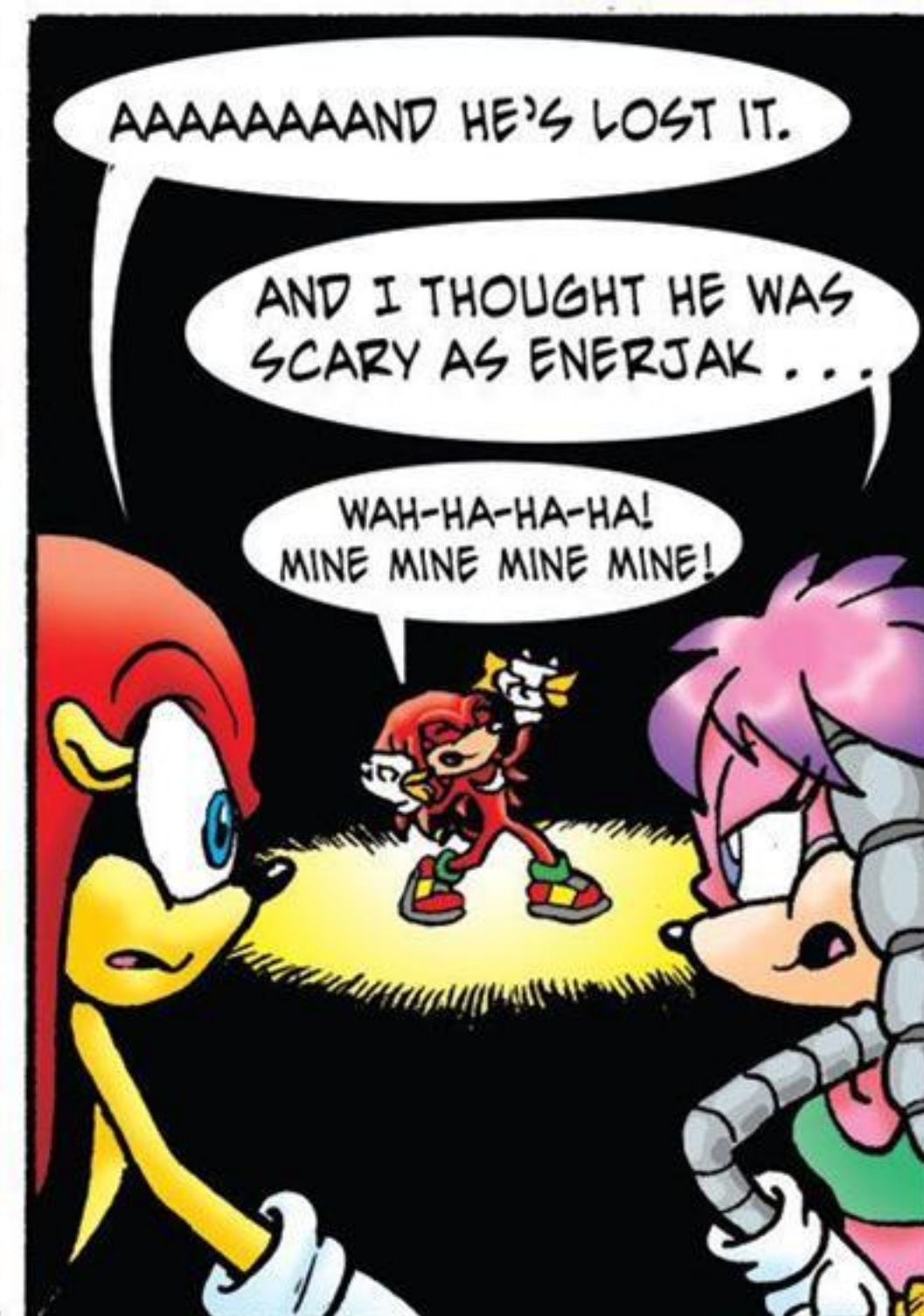
SCRIPT: IAN FLYNN PENCILS: JAMAL PEPPERS INKS/COLORS: PAUL KAMINSKI



OFF PANEL

ECHOES of the PAST

"CARRIED AWAY"



SCRIPT: IAN FLYNN PENCILS: JAMAL PEPPERS INKS/COLORS: PAUL KAMINSKI

HEY KIDS!

LOVE "OFF PANEL"? WANNA WRITE YOUR OWN HILARIOUS
SONIC COMIC STRIPS?? SEND YOUR GUT-BUSTING SONIC STRIP TO :
MY SONIC FAN FUNNIES C/O ARCHIE COMICS PUBLICATIONS, INC.
P.O. BOX #419 MAMARONECK NY 10543-0419 E-MAIL:
SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM

